The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" I second the motion."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" I propose that Sriman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo be also a Member of the Select Committee."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" I second it."

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" I propose that Mr. Satyamurti, who is a representative of the University be a Member of the Select Committee."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" I second it "

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" I propose the name of Mr. Madanagopal Nayudu."

Mr B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : —" I second it."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" I find that hon. Members are just now suggesting names to be added to the list of Members of the Select Committee. I think that Mr. Satyamurti may be there. That is my opinion."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" May I know if Mr. Satyamurti is willing to serve on the Committee ? "

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" I think that it would be better if hon. Members discuss the matter with the hon. the Minister and then come up before the House in the evening with a motion instead of each hon. Member suggesting the names of other hon. Members."

The motion of the hon. the Minister for Education was put to the House and declared carried.

Mr. P. ANJANEYALU : —" I rise to a point of order. Certain names were proposed and seconded. I want to know whether we should not dispose of that matter. We can create a sort of convention by agreement. With all respect I accept your suggestion, but I am now raising a point of order."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member may kindly accept the suggestion and act up to it " (Laughter.)

III

AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL Nos. 40 (2), 3 AND 49.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I formally move that the report[a] of the Select Committee appointed to consider a draft amendment to Standing Order No. 40 (2) of the Standing Orders of the Madras Legislative Council be taken up for consideration and the amendment passed."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I beg to second the motion. A representative committee was appointed composed of the hon. the President, Messrs. J. A. Saldanha, S. Satyamurti, C. Natesa Mudaliyar, T. R. Venkatarama Sastri, W. Vijayaraghava Mudaliyar, P. Kesava Pillai,

[a] Printed as Appendix VIII on pages 851-853 infra.

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G. Rameswara Rao, Khalifullah Sahib and Ramaswami Mudaliyar, and they considered the whole question. The propositions they have put forward are these :—

'The Member of the Government in charge of the department to which the Bill relates and the Member who introduced the Bill shall be members of every select committee.

'The other members of the committee shall be named by the Council when the motion that the Bill be referred is made, or at any subsequent sitting. The number of such other members so nominated shall not, without leave of the House, exceed fifteen.'

"That is the main change that has been made."

'The President shall nominate one of the members of the committee to be its chairman.'

"It was considered that the normal procedure might be to have 15 members as the maximum number for these committees. If the House for special reasons want to increase the number, it may do so but with the consciousness that it is increasing that number."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I doubt whether this amendment is quite necessary. As a matter of fact we find that the number of members appointed to select committees at present is very much more than 20. For instance, in the case of the Hindu Religious Endowments Bill it was more than 20; in the case of the Madras University Bill it was more than 20; with regard to the Irrigation Bill and Malabar Tenancy Bill it was more than 30. For the Borstal Bill that was introduced the other day it was 22. With regard to the Andhra University Bill, the hon. the Minister for Education says that the number of members already appointed to the select committee is about 34 and we saw to-day the desire of many hon. Members of this House to add to that number. Because a maximum of 15 or 20—whatever that may be—has been fixed, it does not follow that that maximum should be reached. It also follows that we can exceed that number with the leave of the House. What I submit is that asking the special leave of the House should not be made a normal feature of the appointment of select committees. I doubt the wisdom of limiting the maximum number. The Member of the Government in charge of the department to which the Bill relates and the Member who introduces the Bill shall be members of the select committee. In addition to them there will be 15 other members so that the maximum comes to 17. In any case, if the whole House considers that such a maximum is necessary, I submit that the number may be increased to 20. I have not given formal notice of any amendment. But if my hon. Friend, the Leader of the House, agrees to it, with the consent of the hon. the President, a formal amendment may be moved. My suggestion is that the number of members may be increased from 15 to 20."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I was not a member of this committee and I do not know what happened during the deliberations of this committee. But the facts however are these: that on account of large committees being appointed the expenses of select committees are mounting up tremendously. Each select committee of the Malabar Tenancy Bill costs four to five thousand rupees; each select committee of the Irrigation Bill costs six to seven thousand rupees. The idea with which this motion was brought forward was that these committees ought to be small businesslike bodies

12 noon.

excepting where on account of the special importance of the subject or for other reasons the House applies its mind to the question of increasing the number. It is that which is at the bottom of this idea. It seems to me that it would be a wholesome rule in ordinary Bills of no particular complexity that some such maximum should be fixed That is all I have to say. Hon. Members who are members of the committee may probably explain what exactly took place.

" I want to say one thing more. In the House of Commons which is composed of 670 members, no select committee shall, without the leave of the House, consist of more than 15 members."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The select committee there is not the select committee as we understand it here."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" They have got different functions. I am only referring to the select committees such as they are under the parliamentary procedure. 'A select committee is usually confined to 15 members, but if, from any special circumstances, a larger number should be thought necessary, the House after notice previously given, makes the necessary order.' I shall not at present go into the question of what the functions of the parliamentary select committees are."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" I rise to a point of order. I should first like to have information whether the conditions in Standing Order No. 44 (1) (i) have been fulfilled, namely, the Bill as reported by the select committee, be taken into consideration, but any member may object to its being so taken into consideration if the copies mentioned in Standing Order No. 42 have not been available for the use of members for fifteen days, etc. I have not received any copy."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Copies were handed over to hon. Members some months ago."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" As the original mover of this amendment, I would just say a few words as to on what grounds and under what circumstances this amendment was moved by me. Committees are called *select* and it is a matter for wonder to people outside as also to myself why a select committee should consist of 40 members, out of 125 Members of the Council as in the case of the Religious Endowments Bill and the Irrigation Bill. From the inquiries I have made and also from what I have seen myself of the deliberations of select committees and from what I have read of the reports of the proceedings of select committees, I could not make myself sure that all these 40 or 30 members did take the trouble to apply their mind to all the matters under discussion, with the necessary attention and care that was required of a member of the select committee. Now, it is natural for all members to be desirous of serving on every select committee. I am also anxious to be on select committees ; I consider myself a very wise man and that I ought to be in every committee (laughter). But I want to know what is to be the limit to the number in select committees, what is the amount of attention the so-called members of the select committee bestow, and whether the general tax-payer should pay all the cost of these select committees for the trouble we take in the matters referred to us From all these points of view, I think that the general tax-payer should not be burdened with this huge cost of select committees. Committees are select

and I think that the number according to the parliamentary practice, should be limited to 15. We have considered the matter carefully and have placed our view before the House. I think this number would do as good work as 30 or 40. We come from long distances for the sake of our people. The people in the country wonder what we are all doing in this Council. After all, our work does not correspond to their wishes. Most of our resolutions supported by a large majority of the Council, have not been considered by the Cabinet.

" I can assure you that there is a great discontent among the people as to the work we do or are expected to do in the Council Considering these facts, is it worth while that we should have committees of 40 and 50 for every Bill ? My own humble opinion is, 15 should be the maximum for almost every Bill, including the wonderful Religious Endowments Bill and the Irrigation Bill, and, as for the other Bills that have recently come up, like the Borstal Bill, I would limit the number to 10. Therefore in the interests of efficiency and economy and the duty we owe to the people, I would urge that this amendment should be passed. According to parliamentary practice 15 is the normal number. In Parliament, there are standing committees for railways, for marine, etc., for which experts are necessary. So far as these things are concerned, there are what are called permanent standing committees. In ordinary matters, select committees are appointed. When we bear in mind that in a Parliament consisting of over 650 members the parliamentary practice fixes the maximum ordinarily at 15, I think this House ought to adopt that practice in the interests of efficiency as well as in the interests of the people."

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—" I beg to give my hearty support to the amendment so ably moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Saldanha. It is preposterous that a small assembly like ours should in any one of its committees contain as many as 30 or 40 members. As the hon. the Law Member has pointed out the select committee is a very businesslike body, and I cannot understand how 30 or 40 members can be brought together in a businesslike body. The practice of the House of Commons has been quoted, and I think we shall be following very healthy traditions if we limit very rigorously the number on our select committees.

" There is one other reason on which I should like to urge the limitation of the number of members on select committees. There is a temptation that always presents itself to Members of Government Benches to increase the number of members of select committees, especially towards the fag-end of the session. That temptation ought to be taken away from before the minds of hon. Members in Government Benches, and if for very special reasons the number has to be increased, the remedy should be made to lie in the hands of the House. The House ought to discuss the question fairly and squarely whether the limit is to be exceeded, and if there are overwhelming reasons I am sure the House will come to the rescue and appoint a more numerous select committee. Therefore, in the interest of business, in the interests of purity of discussion in this House, I would recommend this amendment to the unanimous acceptance of the House."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" I also am inclined to think that there must be a limit to the number of members of select committees; but, what creates difficulty is the way in which we have

commenced our business in the case of select committees ever since we began the present sittings of the Council. This report of the select committee was published on or after the 1st April, and this Standing Order formed one of the subjects in the agenda for this meeting of the Council. Notwithstanding this fact, in the case of both the Borstal Bill and the Andhra University Bill, we had to create in the first instance large select committees, exceeding the number 15. In one case it was 25; in the other it was 35, and if the further additions proposed are taken in, it will go up to 40 and 50. So far as the House is concerned, they have found the necessity to increase the number to far more than the maximum fixed This question having been raised, it is but necessary that we must make up our minds to fix the maximum at a reasonable figure. Following the parliamentary procedure, there are certain further restrictions. Fifteen here is the number fixed. If other names are suggested—we know it is not difficult to get the inclusion of other members—the leave of the House may be asked for with no previous notice, and so the figure 15 may not be adhered to. Suppose the hon. Member in charge of Education suggests only 15 for the Andhra University Bill, and immediately a member asks the leave of the House to add some other member, it will not be possible to refuse his request. I only wish it to be considered how far it will serve our purpose It may be thought that the maximum of 15 is low. So I am inclined to agree with Mr. Krishnan Nayar that the maximum may be put at 20. I am afraid that the words 'with notice previously given' may create some difficulty. Therefore I suggest that it is difficult to accept the amendment in this particular form, and that further amendments are necessary before this report can be accepted. I think, Sir, because no notice has been given of amendments, that it is quite necessary before we meet next, some further amendments are considered by this House. In view of the necessity for giving notice of further amendments to the Standing Orders, I formally propose an adjournment of the consideration of the question to the next meeting of the Council."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I second the motion."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I do not propose to object to the adjournment. I consider that the reasons that have been urged both by the hon. Member from Malabar and the hon. Member from Nellore are cogent. If there is to be a maximum at all, let it be a definite maximum, and let there be a procedure regulating any departure, not *ad hoc* with reference to each Bill, but a procedure which will make it possible for the House to fix its attention upon the question quite apart from the particular circumstances of each case.

" For that reason, Sir, and inasmuch as hon. Members have stated that they want notice and further opportunities for tabling amendments I do not propose to stand in the way of the adjournment of this motion."

12-15 p.m.

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, may we not at this stage oppose the whole thing ? "

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo (from the Chair) :—" Certainly."

The motion was put and carried and the question was adjourned to the next meeting.

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* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I move for leave to amend Standing Order Nos. 3 and 49 in the following manner :

' Paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 3 shall be omitted, paragraphs (2), (3), (4) and (5) of the same Standing Order shall be renumbered as (1), (2), (3) and (4).

' In clause (3) of Standing Order No. 49 for the words " with or without further amendment " the words " with such formal and consequential amendments as may be necessary " shall be substituted.'

" Sir, I take it that you will follow Standing Order No. 76."

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" I second it."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. Deputy President, I object to leave being given to amend Standing Order No. 49. Very few words are required from me to explain my object in doing so. Hon. Members will remember what. . ."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I rise to a point of order. Under Standing Order No. 76, no speeches are allowed at this stage. If there is objection, leave may be granted if 20 members rise in their places."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I am aware of that Standing Order, Sir. May I ask you to put the two amendments separately ? "

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" As there is no objection taken to leave being granted to amend Standing Order No. 3, and as objection has been taken only to moving the amendment to Standing Order No. 49, I have now to ask such of the hon. Members as are in favour of the amendment to Standing Order No. 49 being moved to rise in their places.

[After a pause]

" More than 20 hon. Members having signified their assent to the motion being made, the hon. the Law Member has the leave of the House to make his motion."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. Deputy President, now I proceed to move that the draft amendments be referred to a select committee of which the President shall be the Chairman, and to which the Deputy President, the Advocate-General and a Chairman of the Council shall be nominated members. You will announce that there will be an election by the Council of the other six members."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" At 2 p.m. hon. Members may send in names for nomination. If there are more members nominated than are required then we would go for election and that would be final. The papers should be handed over to the Secretary before 5-30 p.m."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" I rise to a point of order. When you just left your Chair you called upon a junior chairman of the panel to occupy your seat during your absence when a senior chairman was physically present. I should like to know whether it is not the rule that the senior among the panel of chairmen should be asked to occupy the seat vacated by the President or the Deputy President."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"Sir, I should like to know whether there are junior chairmen and senior chairmen among the panel of chairmen." (Laughter.)

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I do not think it is in order first of all to question the ruling of the chair on this matter. The Chairman has the right to select anybody to take his place from among the panel and, so far as I know, there is no seniority or juniority among these chairmen."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"I selected the gentleman who was near at hand. I wanted also to give a chance to each member of the panel of chairmen."

*Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"May I add that it would have been personally inconvenient to me if you had asked me to come and occupy the chair?"

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"Sometimes it may be very easy for young men to come and sit here for a few minutes. The hon. Member Sriman Sasibhushana Rath is rather an elderly gentleman and I thought, therefore, that he might have half an hour. The hon. Member Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar was in the chair half an hour yesterday."

IV

RULES UNDER SECTIONS 3 AND 7 OF THE COTTON TRANSPORT ACT, 1923.

The discussion on resolution moved by the hon. the Minister for Development on 21st August 1925, viz : "*This Council approves the notification and the rules which it is proposed to issue under sections 3 and 7 of the Cotton Transport Act, 1923 (III of 1923) and recommends to Government that the said notification and rules should be issued in the form in which they have been submitted to the Council*" was resumed.

* Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"Sir, I propose to move the following :—

'*In Schedule I, section 2, line 1 after the word* "Karur" *insert the words* "Musiri and Kulittalai" *and in line 2 for the word* "taluk" *substitute the word* "taluks".

'*In Schedule II, section 2, line 3, for the word* "Ayyalur" *substitute the word* "Samudram" *and for the word* "Sanapiratti" *substitute the word* "Marudur".'

"Sir, I moved for the adjournment of this matter till the next meeting of the Council which was lost and that is why I have to move these amendments now. Either in the original resolution moved by the hon. the Minister for Development or in the amendment proposed by Mr Venkataramana Ayyangar the district of Trichinopoly has not been included in the Tiruppur cambodia cotton-growing area. The taluk of Karur alone has been included. As it is, Trichinopoly is a big cambodia cotton-growing area and most of the cotton grown there is sent to Tiruppur. We have not got ginning factories or cotton-presses in Trichinopoly and it would be hard to the ryots, if Trichinopoly has not been included in the Tiruppur cambodia cotton